

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment to the specification is presented to provide a cross-reference to the parent applications, to which the instant application claims benefit of priority.

The present application is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/375,248, which was filed August 16, 1999. In that parent application, Applicants received an office action restricting the claims of the application to one of 5 separate inventions. Applicants elected, with traverse, the claims of Group I, *i.e.*, claims 1- and 14-21. In the instant divisional application, Applicants present the foregoing amendment to cancel the previously elected claims.

In the foregoing amendment, Applicants further provide new claims 38-51. Each of these new claims is fully supported by the specification and introduction of these claims does not constitute an introduction of new matter. Simply by way of example, and not intended as an exhaustive list of support, the following provides direction as to where the support for the new claims may be found.

New claims 37-41 are directed to further defining the diagnostic characteristics patient having hereditary lymphedema. For example, these claims define the mutations that may be used to diagnose hereditary lymphedema in the patient being treated. These claims are supported in the specification in original claims 1-4 and by the specification at *e.g.*, page 12, lines 21-31.

New claim 42 providing that the claimed methods "induce[s] VEGFR-3 signaling in the lymphatic endothelia of affected individuals," is supported at least at page 12, lines 25-31. This section of the specification also supports claim 43, which provides that the claimed methods "induce[s] VEGFR-3 signaling in the lymphatic endothelia of affected individuals." Claim 44, which contemplates that the claimed methods "reduce[s] edema in the limbs of said patient" is supported at page 13, lines 16-24. Claim 45 also is supported at that location of the specification. New claims 46-51 which contemplate the sites at which the

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compositions are administered and the nature of the compositions is supported by Example 3 of the specification located at pages 39-41, and more specifically, at page 40, lines 19-30.

Applicants submit no new matter is added by the above amendments.
Applicants request entry of the amendments prior to further substantive prosecution of the instant application.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this submission, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative.

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Respectfully submitted,

By



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